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April 21, 2009

To: All KDOC staff From: Roger Werholtz Re: Budget Discussions

This afternoon I appeared before the House Public Safety Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee along with the heads of other public safety agencies. We were asked, in light of the revised revenue projections, to identify how we could reduce the Department's FY 2010 budget by an additional 5% (\$10,800,000). You need to be aware of the items we discussed, because a number of them severely impact departmental operations, and people will be impacted if these reductions are taken. They include:

- Deleting \$845,000 from information technology operations.
- Keeping the 176 beds in B cell house at Winfield closed through the first half of FY 2010.
- Reducing community corrections grants by an additional 7% for a total reduction of 10%.
- Suspending operations at EDCF-North Unit which will cause us to lose an additional 102 male beds.
- Reducing funding for reentry programs by \$1,150,000.
- Reducing offender programs by an additional \$3,241,844
- Cutting Victims' Services by \$250,000.
- Cutting central office operations by \$500,000.
- Cutting \$2,036,810 by eliminating 33 parole positions and 13 SEO positions.

These are items under discussion with one House subcommittee. No decisions have been made. Legislators are trying to understand the implications of the very difficult decisions they will have to make. In our case, they asked a number of questions about the impact these cuts would have, if they were made, on public safety. They understand that any and all of these cuts will have an adverse impact.

Let me repeat that no decisions have been made. However, I understand how hard it is to hear these things discussed when they impact us personally. Please stay focused on the job that each of us is asked to do to keep Kansas safe. Now, more than ever, the state needs you to continue to give your best efforts. As the discussions progress, we will do our best to keep you informed.